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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Hiroaki ITO et al.

Title: A PREVENTIVE OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE COMPRISING IL-6 ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE INGREDIENT

Appl. No.: 10/677,227

Filing Date: 10/3/2003

Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ

Art Unit: 1646

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for a five-month extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely.

The extension fee for response within the fifth month is \$2,160.00. A credit card payment form for this amount is enclosed herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

03/15/2006 HAL111 00000094 10677227

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Respectfully submitted,

Date March 14, 2006

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